



Rules and Regulations

Laws: All anglers must comply with all applicable Federal and Florida laws regarding fishing licenses, size limits, bag limits, speed limits, etc... Applicable laws may be found at <http://myfwc.com/>.

Tackle: *Fish must be caught alive, using standard hook & line fishing techniques. Rod, Reel, Hook & Line only.*

Registration: *Only registered anglers may fish in this tournament (Maximum of 4 anglers per boat). Registration forms are available online and at the captains' meeting.*

Eligible Species: *The only eligible species for this tournament are Snook, Redfish, and Spotted Seatrout.*

Individual Winners: *Individual winners will be determined by the length of each fish, using only the provided measuring instrument. This is a "catch & release" tournament. Photographs will be used to determine the winning fish in the event of a tie (same length in species), the winner will be determined by the earliest photo submitted. All winners may be subject to a polygraph exam.*

Inshore Slam Winners: The Inshore slam winners, which is a BOAT slam, will be determined by the total combined length of the boat's longest snook, longest redfish, and longest spotted seatrout. You must have all 3 species measured to be eligible to win the Inshore slam. The Inshore Slam winners may be subject to a polygraph exam.

*****All Winners must be present at the tournament awards ceremony to collect their winnings.*****

Protests: An official protest may be filed in the event of a rule's violation for the cost of \$500. If the protest is deemed valid, the protestor will be refunded the \$500. If the protest is deemed NOT valid, the protestor will forfeit the \$500.

Official Fishing Time: *The official start time for the tournament is 6:00 a.m (June 20, 2025). All anglers must have all photographs uploaded to iAngler Tournament app no later than 1:00 p.m (June 20, 2025).*

Fishing Boundaries: *Fishing boundaries will be from Anna Maria Island, north to the Homosassa River (Gulf side only). Should any angler fish beyond these boundaries, he or she will be disqualified from the tournament.*

Photographs: *Photographs must show the entire fish, tip to tail on the provided measuring stick.*

Captains' Meeting: *The captains' meeting will be held on Thursday, June 19, 2025, at the Finn's Dockside Bar and Grill, beginning at 7:00 pm. It is mandatory that each boat send at least one participant to this meeting, for detailed instructions. Additional dinners may be purchased for others wishing to attend, at a cost of \$30 per person.*

Release of Liability: *It is expressly understood that all participants in the HCSO Fishing Tournament entered this event at their own discretion and solely at their own risk. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, its command staff and deputies, tournament officials, sponsors, donors, and all persons connected directly and indirectly with the operations of this event shall be exempt from any liability for libel, slander, loss, damage, negligence, harm, injury or death suffered by any participant, vessel owner, captain and/or equipment which may occur during the event. All anglers, participants and captains will fish and/or operate their vessels solely at their own risk.*

Weather: It is up to the discretion of the team captain to determine whether his or her craft is seaworthy for existing sea conditions. Participants are encouraged to scan channel 16, to keep abreast of any marine or weather warnings.